

1

The Process of SDG Global Indicator Development

Jennifer Park, UNECE

UNCTAD

June 21, 2018

How is Progress Measured? Inter-agency and Expert Group (IAEG-SDG)

- Proposes initial indicator framework
- Manages indicator development process
- Spring and autumn in person meetings
- Reports to the UN Statistical Commission



Who are the IAEG-SDG?

- Country-led, 28 countries are members (represented by National Statistical Offices), all other countries and international organizations are observers
- Observers provide input to technical deliberations
 - Custodian agencies
 - Other international organizations
 - Academia
 - Private sector
 - Public



How Were Initial Indicators Determined?

- Initial framework adopted by UNGA in July 2017 as starting point
- Tier classification guides statistical capacity efforts
 - Tier 1 internationally, IAEG agreed, methodology exists, data widely available
 - Tier 2 IAEG agreed methodology exists, data available for some countries
 - Tier 3 no internationally agreed methodology



How are Indicators Developed? Custodian Agencies (w/ Stakeholders)

- Propose global metadata, including conceptualization, piloting
- Harmonize national statistics and prepare global aggregate
- Assist countries in production of statistics relevant to indicator capacity building
- Prepare input to global progress report (statistical annexes and brief text); thematic reports



How are Indicators Changed? *Refinements*



- Small changes to correct obvious errors in spelling and metrics referenced in initial indicator list and proposed global metadata.
- Considered **annually**; do not require formal adoption by UNSC
- No substantive changes in what is measured; no additional indicators or replacements (or deletions)

How are Indicators Changed? *Revisions*

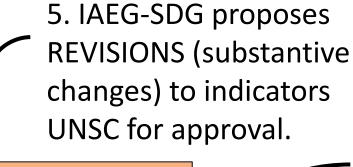
- Substantive changes to the indicator. Includes additions, replacements and deletions.
- **Considered twice**: March 2020 and March 2025 for formal adoption by UNSC after global consultation
- Changes must be consistent with the initial direction to the UNSC in developing indicators: each target should have at least one indicator, and indicators **should not re-interpret** either the associated target or the goal



Big Picture: Indicator Development Process

UNSC

1. NSOs in UNSC create IAEG-SDG to create initial indicator framework





2. NSO staff in IAEG-SDG, with stakeholders and agencies, develop initial indicator list, tier system, and designate custodian agencies and their roles

Stakeholders



4. Custodian agencies,working with stakeholders,propose revisions orrefinements to IAEG-SDG

Custodian agency

3. Tiering designation guides initial work (e.g., conceptualization, piloting, global metadata, etc.)

Considerations



- Tier 3 indicators that have not shown progress in methodological development may be replaced in 2020 and 2025
- Refinements to metadata may be useful
- Early and frequent **briefing of plans and pilots with the IAEG** is extremely valuable—before and after pilots are completed
- Proposals to IAEG should reflect the support of the designated custodian agencies and stakeholders